



Broiler Hatchery

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Broiler-Type Eggs Set Down 5 Percent

Commercial hatcheries in the 19 State weekly program set 196 million eggs in incubators during the week ending December 10, 2011. This was down 5 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 85 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed Down 3 Percent

Broiler growers in the 19 State weekly program placed 165 million chicks for meat production during the week ending December 10, 2011. Placements were down 3 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from January 2, 2011 through December 10, 2011 were 8.10 billion, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Broiler-Type Eggs Set – 19 Selected States: 2011

State	Week ending					
	November 5, 2011	November 12, 2011	November 19, 2011	November 26, 2011	December 3, 2011	December 10, 2011
	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)	(1,000 eggs)
Alabama	24,116	27,255	27,406	27,525	27,953	28,000
Arkansas	19,738	20,366	20,519	19,977	20,074	20,174
Delaware	2,895	2,903	2,903	3,095	3,127	3,124
Florida	1,351	1,352	1,349	1,351	1,346	1,352
Georgia	30,427	30,501	31,927	31,647	31,993	31,595
Kentucky	7,578	7,689	7,660	7,064	7,453	7,463
Louisiana	3,379	3,349	3,374	3,379	3,364	3,364
Maryland	7,636	7,549	6,875	7,632	7,275	7,322
Mississippi	17,737	17,493	18,186	17,775	18,229	18,085
Missouri	7,175	7,882	7,871	8,036	8,052	7,931
North Carolina	19,156	19,942	20,105	19,753	20,017	19,712
Oklahoma	6,439	6,672	6,620	6,576	6,401	6,721
Pennsylvania	3,423	3,751	3,764	3,794	3,854	3,766
South Carolina	5,106	5,329	5,535	5,352	5,048	5,200
Texas	13,650	14,423	14,551	14,521	14,225	14,375
Virginia	6,025	5,975	5,947	5,962	5,826	6,166
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	11,209	12,166	11,125	11,284	10,936	11,536
19 State total	187,040	194,597	195,717	194,723	195,173	195,886
Previous year total	199,721	204,203	205,716	207,175	203,973	205,282
Percent of previous year	94	95	95	94	96	95

Broiler-Type Chicks Placed – 19 Selected States: 2011

State	Week ending					
	November 5, 2011	November 12, 2011	November 19, 2011	November 26, 2011	December 3, 2011	December 10, 2011
	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)	(1,000 chicks)
Alabama	19,403	18,624	17,798	17,578	19,231	20,536
Arkansas	16,039	17,666	19,007	19,647	20,888	21,133
Delaware	3,589	3,993	4,493	4,428	4,303	3,533
Florida	1,182	1,139	1,162	978	1,299	1,052
Georgia	24,573	26,102	24,488	25,440	25,259	26,653
Kentucky	5,291	5,177	6,452	6,217	5,972	6,546
Louisiana	2,793	3,013	3,038	2,995	2,920	2,992
Maryland	6,168	5,719	4,736	5,317	6,729	6,810
Mississippi	14,446	14,544	13,958	15,320	14,971	15,604
Missouri	5,005	4,475	4,956	4,983	5,183	5,628
North Carolina	14,019	14,980	15,642	16,099	15,933	15,513
Oklahoma	4,645	4,242	3,450	3,686	3,286	4,068
Pennsylvania	3,143	3,090	2,789	2,858	3,096	3,138
South Carolina	4,123	3,974	4,527	5,026	4,660	4,323
Texas	11,223	11,499	12,334	11,897	11,931	12,138
Virginia	5,002	4,635	4,643	4,778	4,281	4,699
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	9,698	9,946	10,166	10,604	11,543	10,523
19 State total	150,342	152,818	153,639	157,851	161,485	164,889
Previous year total	161,368	164,476	165,149	164,970	168,395	169,211
Percent of previous year	93	93	93	96	96	97

Statistical Methodology

Survey Procedures: Data for broiler hatchery estimates are collected weekly from all chicken hatcheries within the 19 States that hatch at least one million chicks a year. The 19 States account for approximately 97 percent of the broilers produced on an annual basis. Individual NASS field offices maintain a list of all known hatcheries and update their lists on a continual basis. All hatcheries within the 19 States that meet the minimum size criteria are given adequate time to respond to the weekly survey. Those that do not respond are contacted by telephone.

Estimating Procedures: All data are analyzed for unusual values. Data from each operation are compared to their own past operating profile and to trends from similar operations. Data for missing operations are estimated based on similar operations or historical data. NASS field offices prepare these estimates by using a combination of survey indications and historic trends. Individual State estimates are reviewed by the Agricultural Statistics Board for reasonableness. Individual hatchery data are summed to State and 19 State totals.

Revision Policy: Revisions are generally the result of late or corrected data. Revisions made to the previous five-week's data during the current week are published in this report. Final estimates are published in the annual *Hatchery Production Summary* released in April.

Reliability: Estimates are subject to errors such as omission, duplication, and mistakes in reporting, recording, and processing the data. While these errors cannot be measured directly, they are minimized through strict quality controls in the data collection process and a careful review of all reported data for consistency and reasonableness.

Information Contacts

Listed below are the commodity specialists in the Livestock Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service to contact for additional information. E-mail inquiries may be sent to nass@nass.usda.gov

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